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SECRETARY'S REPORT, 1905.

THE present secretary began his duties about the 10th of January. At that time the nineteenth volume of the Transactions was in the hands of the state printer, and one of the first tasks devolved on the new secretary was to see that the promises of an early issue of the forthcoming volume were duly fulfilled. It soon became apparent that the state printer was not bound by an understanding he had with Professor Grimsley, either because the latter did not make the plan sufficiently definite, or because the former had a change of heart after it was settled that he would go out of office in June. At any rate we could not get the extra copies of papers which the Academy had voted, and the best that could be done was to have fifty extra copies of each signature of the Transactions printed. These were divided up and sent to the authors as a partial remedy for the failure.

The rush of legislative printing delayed the completion of our volume till May, and it was gratifying to note, when it did come out, that it was the largest and one of the best yet sent forth by the Academy.

The Transactions were distributed according to vote of the Academy, giving to each member a copy, and an extra copy was sent to writers of papers.

The usual distribution to exchanges was made, and copies sent to state officials and to prominent newspapers. Members of the legislature were supplied on application, but other applicants had to be informed that our Transactions were on sale at list prices.

The exchange list is much as it has been for some years, and it may be very profitably revised and enlarged. It is through this that our library obtains its growth, and will become, if properly managed, a very unique and valuable collection of books.

THE MUSEUM.

While the last legislature was in session, an invitation was sent out by the secretary for members and others to visit the museum, then just installed in its permanent quarters.

It is believed that this had a favorable influence in making known the work of the Academy and in securing legislative provision for its support. We are by law a "coordinate department

of the State Board of Agriculture," and there is no doubt we shall receive all the recognition we deserve. We have a field of activity of our own, which supplements the agricultural, the educational, the mechanical and the commercial work of the state, and it is for us to take possession of our province.

In its enlargement our museum has happily taken the form of an exhibit of the economic mineral resources of the state, and this, with proper care and growth, may become one of the most interesting and useful collections in the state-house. Our present display is the outcome of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, at St. Louis, and the near approach of the commemoration of the semicentennial of Kansas is an opportunity this Academy should not neglect of strengthening itself and doing its share in the upbuilding of our commonwealth. It will be very appropriate at this meeting for the Academy to put itself on record as a promoter of this worthy enterprise. The mineral resources of Kansas are only beginning to be known, and promise to add to our wealth an equal quota with the agricultural products. The total value of our coal, of our petroleum, our clays, cements, and plaster, of our salt, of our glass sand, and many other minerals, represents a fortune, compared with which the wealth of a modern Cræsus appears insignificant.

LIBRARY.

Reference has already been made to our books, and in considering a library, its quality is quite as important as its size. We are constantly receiving the transactions of scientific bodies from various parts of the earth. We also get various government publications from Washington, and have had each year, for some time, several hundred volumes of these publications neatly bound. Our catalogue at this date gives only the titles of these volumes, grouped under names of the countries from which they come. We need very much a catalogue arranged according to modern library methods, which will make it possible to use conveniently the many valuable books in our collection. All the leading European languages are represented, and your secretary will need clerical assistance to bring the library into proper shape.

We have been loaning books to members with much advantage, no doubt, but this practice requires some rules as to the time such loaned books may be kept, or the library will suffer loss. I recommend a committee to formulate such rules as may seem best to govern the loaning of books.

The Transactions are the chief asset of the library, and owing to

irregularities in the number published of each volume, it has come to pass that we can no longer furnish complete sets. A few years ago a reprint was made of the first three volumes, and now a similar reprint is needed of volumes IV, V, VI, and VII. With this provision we can furnish as many as 100 complete sets of our Transactions, and with these can secure valuable exchanges for our library.

The committee on purchase of books has not yet reported to me any action, although their attention has been called to it several times. The money now in the treasury would go far toward paying for reprints of the four volumes mentioned above, and they would be equivalent to a library fund that will in time bring back to the treasury several times the sum invested.

The State Printing Board honored our requisition for binding 500 volumes, and about one-half that number are now completed and on our shelves.

ACCESSIONS.

There have been added to the library, since January 10, 1905, 70 bound volumes and about 600 unbound volumes and pamphlets. These are outside of our regular exchanges, and the bound volumes are mainly from the Smithsonian Institution and other departments at Washington.

The geological and agricultural bureaus are especially prolific, and some of their publications are of great value. We obtain, also, many costly publications from St. Petersburg, and it would be convenient for helping reference to such books to have on our tables lexicons of the languages in which our books are printed.

J. T. LOVEWELL, *Secretary.*

DECEMBER 1, 1905.